

12th IACC
WORKSHOP SHORT REPORT FORM
FOR RAPPORTEURS

Number and title of workshop: 3.4 Preventing Corruption in Forestry: Challenges and Opportunities for the Private Sector

Date and time of workshop: Friday Nov 17th, 2006 15.00 to 17.30 hs

Moderator (Name and Institution) Ken Rosenbaum / Senior Advisor / Forest Integrity Network

Rapporteur (Name and Institution) Andrea Figari, Transparency International

Panellists (Name, institution, title)

Alfred Bronwell, President. Green Advocates, Liberia
 Susan Côté-Freeman, Programme Manager / Business Principles for Countering Bribery. Transparency International.
 Ken Rosenbaum, Sylvan Environmental Consultants, Senior Advisor to the Forest Integrity Network

Main Issues Covered

- Introduction to Forest Integrity Network
- Description of Business Principles for Countering Bribery: TIs tool for companies to adopt basic good business ethics principles, followed by an implementation process.
- Brief overview on the problems around forestry and corruption.
- Liberia case: recovering from a collapse in rule of law and the transition to a new forest regime.
- Russia case, via Video of Tikhvin project: Voluntary business codes from forest to newspaper publishers.
- General discussions of opportunities for action.

Main Outcomes

According to data provided by the workshop evaluation form, 60% of the participants described themselves as “somewhat knowledgeable or not knowledgeable” on the topic. 70% of them said they had learnt something new about the issue of forest corruption and how to engage the private sector.

Although reception to the idea of the Business Principles was welcome, views were also expressed about how the complexities of the sector (which is usually linked with sectors such as arms trade, drug traffic and smuggling) would allow such an instrument to be applied.

Participants left the workshop with an increased awareness on the Business Principles for Countering Bribery, as well as with the details about the case in Liberia and the efforts from the private sector to clean its operations in Russia.

Main Outputs

- 50 index cards reflecting participants’ ideas, suggestions and comments were recorded
- Call to explore adding timber as one of the industries in initiatives such as the

EITI (Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative) or PWYP (Publish what you pay)

- **Call to find ways to counterbalance the power of lawless timber interests and increase the influence of advocates of sustainability, with better transparency playing a role.**
- **Participants expressed interest in continuing to receive information about FIN and the Business Principles for Countering Bribery.**

Recommendations, Follow-up Actions

- **Need to better diagnose impact on corruption in forestry (map of corruption), through wider stakeholder consultation**
- **Outreach to involved stakeholders (environmental organizations, consumers of wood, law enforcement authorities and judiciary) in addition to engaging with forest sector companies.**
- **Call for more involvement of TI with certification schemes to include corruption in their indicators.**
- **A mailing list will be established, to update participants on FIN activities, particularly on the establishment of an online forum to continue discussions.**

Workshop Highlights (including interesting quotes)

Signed _____ Andrea Figari _____